



Calder Chronicle

NUMBER 16

Phone (03) 5447 7022

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THURSDAY, 4TH JUNE 2026

CALENDAR

Thursday, 4th June

Monday, 8th June

Tuesday, 9th June

Thursday, 11th June

Tuesday, 16th June

Wednesday, 17th June

THURSDAY, 18TH JUNE

Monday, 22nd June

Wednesday, 24th June

Friday, 26th June

Monday, 13th July

Middle Unit Gym Program

King's Birthday Public Holiday

Footsteps Whole School Continues

Middle Unit Gym Program

Footsteps Whole School Continues

Division Soccer – Selected Yr 5/6 students

YEAR 2 SLEEPOVER – please consent / pay on Compass

Cluster Athletics – Selected Yr 4-6 students

Parent / Teacher / Student Conference Day

Pizza Orders Due

LAST DAY OF TERM –

Student Award Assembly 9:00am / Footsteps Performance 9:30am

PIZZA DAY

EARLY DISMISSAL 2:30PM

First day Term 3 9:00am

School Organisation

Dear Parents, Carers and Greater Community,

What a busy cold week it has been with the shorter week.

KING'S BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Monday 8th June is a public holiday for Victoria, so you get to enjoy another long weekend this week 😊. No school Monday.

STAFFING

We have had a number of staff away this week. Wendy has had some Long Service Leave (LSL) replaced mostly by Amanda. Pauline has been away on Sick Leave replaced by Anna. Roberta will be away now until the end of term with her classroom days replaced by Emma. Janet made a short return on Monday and Tuesday but has been away sick again, hope to see her return soon. Matt has been away most of this week unwell, hopefully we will see him tomorrow.

ILLNESS

There are a number of different illnesses going around at the moment. Please remember to keep your child home if they are unwell.

FOUNDATION ENROLMENT FOR 2027

Apply now to enrol your child in Foundation (Prep) for 2027. Make sure to submit your enrolment application **by Friday 31 July 2026**. If you are enrolling the sibling of a student at our school for Foundation in 2027, and both children will be attending our school at the same time, your child is prioritised for a place at Big Hill. It is important to submit your enrolment application to us on time to ensure your child is included in all transition activities offered for enrolled students. Please contact our Office on 5447 7022 to book a school tour or request an application or enrolment form.

STUDENT SUPPORT GROUP (SSG) MEETINGS

SSG's will be taking place next week for those families that require one and Ainsley would have been in contact to book in a time. Please make sure to attend these meetings if you have been asked to. If you feel you require one of these meetings and haven't been contacted, please book a Compass Conference with your classroom teacher or contact them to discuss further.

COMPASS CONFERENCE/STUDENT REPORTS

Conferences are now open on COMPASS. Please make sure you book in a time to meet with your child's teacher before Thursday 18th June. Conference's will be held on Monday 22nd June. There will be no school this day, however students are encouraged to attend the conference, and this will be classed as their attendance for the day. Reports will be released on COMPASS on Friday 19th June in preparation for the conference.

COST OF LIVING HAMPERS

Need some additional food items to help at home? No questions asked. We have boxed or bagged hampers of mixed groceries on the table in the foyer. The only favour we ask is that these are collected by adults and not children. If you need one each week, also no questions asked. Visit or let the Office know discreetly and we'll be happy to help.

CHANGES TO BENDIGO SCHOOL BUS SERVICES

We've been advised by the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) that changes are being made to school special bus services for the start of Term 3. The changes are designed to improve services by increasing capacity and efficiency to meet growing demand. More information, including timetables and maps, will be available before the end of Term 2. We have no further information at this time.

GROUNDS UPGRADES

We have had our new line marking completed on the asphalt area. The children are loving having the fresh lines. Works have started on fixing the retaining wall down near the Tiger Turf area, with new steps going in.

EVACUATION DRILL

We had a lockdown drill today, where everyone was required to lock down in their classrooms. The students responded to the drill well. Please reassure your child/ren if they have any concerns that we do this for practice so that we all know what to do in the event of a real emergency.

MCKERN FRESH FRUIT

We would like to thank the McKern Steel Foundation and sponsors for supplying the fruit, the students love receiving this delivery each week.

Here is Prue and Olivia with their apple and pear.



BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to Chloe V, Huddy H, Austin V, Addison M-B and Oaklynn V.

Hope everyone has a lovely long weekend and make sure to stay warm.

Until next week

Matt Pearce, Principal

FOUNDATION NEWS

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For showing resilience during our end of term testing:

FC **Jameson H**
FN **Jax W**

*Apologies for an error in last week's newsletter.
SOTW should have been:*

FC **Evie O**
FN **Ada M**

Catherine, Nicole & Nick

JUNIOR UNIT NEWS

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For being a responsible learner by asking for help when they needed it:

JAR **Ned D**
JJ **Hudson K**

Ainsley, Roberta & Jen

MIDDLE UNIT NEWS

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For a great effort during our gym program:

MED **Peyton B**
MP **Mitchell G**
MWA **Otis E**

Emma, Dean, Pauline, Wendy & Amanda

SENIOR UNIT NEWS

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Being a positive and focused learner in class:

SB **Valentine J**
SJ **Otis M**
SK **Anna S**

Brett, Jayden & Kate

THE RESILIENCE PROJECT

Staff have chosen the following students to receive this week's GEM award for:

Mindfulness

Foundation	Maeve B
Junior Unit	Connie M
Middle Unit	Harper W
Senior Unit	Koby C
Specialist	Celeste N

SOCIAL MEDIA & CYBER SAFETY

Navigating the Digital World: Your GPS for the Online Adventure

Kids Messenger, The New Digital Playground for Our Tweens

For many of our kids, the playground no longer ends when the school bell rings. It simply moves from the oval to online, and for many Australian tweens, that space is Kids Messenger. You could almost say it is the new monkey bars, just with less bark and more notifications.

Designed as a more controlled and parent approved messaging platform, Kids Messenger is often the first step into social communication for children under 16. It allows them to connect with friends, join group chats and share messages in what feels like a safe environment. While it offers important protections, it is still a social space, and as we all know, kids plus social situations can sometimes be a bit like a game of backyard cricket, things can change very quickly.

Group chats are where most of the action happens. Whether it is a class group, a friendship circle or a sporting team, these chats can be busy, constant and sometimes overwhelming. Messages can roll in faster than sausages at a Bunnings barbecue, and there can be an unspoken pressure to reply quickly or stay involved, so nothing is missed.

One of the biggest issues we are seeing is the use of screenshots. Even though Kids Messenger is designed for younger users, messages can still be captured and shared outside the app. Something that feels like a private joke or comment can quickly become public, leading to hurt feelings, conflict or embarrassment. It is a bit like thinking you are having a quiet chat on the sidelines and suddenly realising the whole crowd has been listening in.

There is also the challenge of inclusion. Being part of a group chat can feel important, and seeing conversations continue without you or plans being made in real time can lead to feelings of being left out. For tweens, who are still figuring out friendships and where they fit, this can hit harder than missing out on the last Zooper Dooper on a hot day.

Another growing concern is the expectation to always be available. Kids can feel they need to stay connected, respond straight away and keep up with conversations that never seem to stop. This can affect sleep, focus at school and overall wellbeing. After all, even adults struggle to keep up with a busy group chat, and we have had a bit more practice.

So, what can we do to support our young people as they navigate Kids Messenger?

Open and regular conversations are key. Asking questions like, Who do you talk to on Kids Messenger, How do the group chats make you feel, and What do you do if something goes wrong can help parents stay connected without it feeling like a full-blown interrogation.

Setting clear boundaries is also important. This might include having devices out of bedrooms at night, agreed times to switch off or limiting how long kids spend on messaging apps each day. A bit like calling stumps at the end of the day, there needs to be a clear finish.

We can also support kids to build digital responsibility. Encouraging them to think before they send a message, to consider how others might feel and to understand that screenshots and sharing can have consequences is essential.

Finally, it is important to remind kids that it is okay to step back. They do not need to reply to every message or stay in every group chat. Giving them permission to disconnect helps build confidence and supports their wellbeing.

Kids Messenger can be a positive way for young people to connect and build friendships, but like any social space, it comes with challenges. By staying informed, setting boundaries and keeping communication open, we can help our kids navigate this digital playground safely and confidently, without needing to check their phone every five seconds.

At the end of the day, Kids Messenger is just another space where our kids are learning how to be friends, solve problems and figure out where they fit, it just happens to be happening through a screen. Like learning to navigate the playground, they will get things wrong, test boundaries and need a bit of guidance along the way. With open conversations, clear expectations and a bit of patience, we can help them build the skills to use these spaces safely and respectfully. And just like we would not leave them to sort out every issue in the schoolyard alone, they should not have to navigate the digital one on their own either.

Safe travels on the internet highway, where your data's the passenger, and you're the navigator!

Kate

COMMUNITY NEWS







DO YOU LOVE YOUR FOOTY?



FITZY! FITZY!

FEATURING:
Famous Fitzpatrick Cup & Medal Giveaways, skills acquisition and a whole lot more...

WHO WILL WIN THE FITZPATRICK MEDAL

JUNIOR FOOTY FUN HOLIDAY PROGRAM

A THREE DAY PROGRAM FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

\$85 per day
\$240 for 3 days

THE PROGRAM CATERES FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

MONDAY, 29 JUNE
TUESDAY, 30 JUNE
WEDNESDAY, 1 JULY

8.30am - 4.30pm

Venue: Ewing Park Recreation Reserve

REGISTER ONLINE



THEIR CARE (OSHC) NEWS




TheirCare
Where Kids love to be!

Big Hill Primary School

Social, enjoyable & fun experiences for children

Develop creativity, life skills & confidence through play

Qualified, caring & engaged staff

Exciting & thoughtfully developed programs

Healthy & Yummy food provided each day

<https://theircare.com.au/>

Bookings for the Winter Holiday Program 'White as Snow' are NOW OPEN. Flyers are available in the Office Foyer or see the Compass post that was sent out earlier this week with the full flyer. Please contact Theirare to book or if you have any questions.



8:00 am. Pick-up after 3:30 pm - please note this is an indicative time only, check with service coordinator to confirm pick-up times. Wear runners & socks.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<div style="background-color: #007bff; color: white; padding: 5px; font-weight: bold;">29 JUN</div>  <p>Spellbound Kingdom</p> <p>Join us as we explore a world of castles, fairies, and fantasy through exciting activities. Take part in the thrilling Dragon Smokey group game, get creative with enchanted crown crests, and design your very own nature wand using magical treasures from nature. To finish the day, enjoy a sweet treat with enchanted apple pops.</p> <p>From as low as \$6.50** Full Fee \$65.00**</p>	<div style="background-color: #007bff; color: white; padding: 5px; font-weight: bold;">30 JUN</div>  <p>To Infinity and Bounce</p> <p>JUMP into fun times as we head to our favourite indoor trampoline venue! Bounce to new heights of fun as we take on the Indoor Trampoline! Back at service, the fun continues with a snake chain craft activity, and a group game of clap catch.</p> <p>From as low as \$8.75** Full Fee \$87.00**</p>	<div style="background-color: #007bff; color: white; padding: 5px; font-weight: bold;">1 JUL</div>  <p>Junior Spies</p> <p>Step into the life of a secret agent! Use the blue light secret pen to reveal hidden messages, see the world in reverse with your spy glasses and attack the detective with! Then keep the mystery going as you collect FBI detective fingerprints and put your skills to the test in an exciting detective group game!</p> <p>From as low as \$8.18** Full Fee \$81.75**</p>	<div style="background-color: #007bff; color: white; padding: 5px; font-weight: bold;">2 JUL</div>  <p>Gar-Chow!</p> <p>Get ready for an action-packed day all about cars, speed, and creativity! Kick things off with the traffic-light group game, get crafty and design your own Popcycle 30CA Cars and inventive as we build and race balloon powered cars. To finish the day, test your speed in the ultimate challenge: the parking bay dash!</p> <p>From as low as \$8.58** Full Fee \$85.00**</p>	<div style="background-color: #007bff; color: white; padding: 5px; font-weight: bold;">3 JUL</div>  <p>Wheels of Wonder</p> <p>Experience double the fun today with a roller skating AND laser tag double header at The Zone Fun Park! The fun will not stop there - back at service, get creative and design your very own cartoon mouse headband, and a hooded car stained window decoration.</p> <p>From as low as \$8.87** Full Fee \$88.00**</p>
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<div style="background-color: #007bff; color: white; padding: 5px; font-weight: bold;">6 JUL</div>  <p>Heroes v Villains</p> <p>Get ready for an action-packed day of fun and super-sized challenges! Create your very own superhero mask and design a shield freeze. Bring your characters to life with Fun Pipe Cleaner Super Heroes, then test your skills in an exciting game of Hero vs Villain Tag! Will heroes save the day or will the villains take over?</p> <p>From as low as \$8.58** Full Fee \$85.00**</p>	<div style="background-color: #007bff; color: white; padding: 5px; font-weight: bold;">7 JUL</div>  <p>Mad Hatters Lab</p> <p>Step into a curious world where things are not always as they seem. Mix, stir, and experiment as you create your own peculiar potions inspired by tippy-tippy tea parties and mysterious adventures. We will then make our very own Mad Hatter inspired top hat, and play a fun game of the tag and musical hop scotch.</p> <p>From as low as \$9.34** Full Fee \$93.40**</p>	<div style="background-color: #007bff; color: white; padding: 5px; font-weight: bold;">8 JUL</div>  <p>Pass the Popcorn</p> <p>Lets go to the movies and see Toy Story 5! The toys are back and this time Buzz Lightyear, Woody, Jessie and the rest of the gang jobs are challenged when they come face-to-face with Lilo and Stitch. Back at service, we will make our own Fork Friend, and compete in a group challenge of Pin the Tail on the Potato.</p> <p>From as low as \$8.77** Full Fee \$87.00**</p>	<div style="background-color: #007bff; color: white; padding: 5px; font-weight: bold;">9 JUL</div>  <p>Talking T-Rex</p> <p>Lets make our own Talking T-Rex today! Start your own dinosaur friend, record a special message and back it inside - will it roar - will it stomp or share a secret? It's your voice, your dinosaur, and endless fun in one cuddly package! Then, enjoy our stinky dog craft, dinosaur hat craft, and a fairy dice eggs STEI experiment!</p> <p>From as low as \$8.18** Full Fee \$81.75**</p>	<div style="background-color: #007bff; color: white; padding: 5px; font-weight: bold;">10 JUL</div>  <p>Animal Sidekick Safari</p> <p>Get ready for a wild adventure today you will create your very own Safari Binoculars to spot creatures up close, then get moving in a silly game of crab walk hop, limbo your creativity with a playful stinky dog craft, and finish the day with the classic favourite game: doggy doggy, where is your bone!</p> <p>From as low as \$8.58** Full Fee \$85.00**</p>

Bendigo Community Health Services



Upcoming Community Events

Check out these local community events!

- Curiosity: Lego Bricks Exhibition - on till Nov 29th
- Play Bendigo - on till July 19th
- Brick by Brick Exhibition - 22nd May - 19th Aug
- The festival of friendships - June 6th (11-3pm) @ Eaglehawk Community House
- Spot: Live on Stage - June 9th
- Bendigo Farmers Market - June 13th
- Electric Wonderland - on from June 26th to July 12th
- Beeswax Wrap Workshop w/ Bendigo Library - on June 5th (11:30-12:30 or 4-5pm)

Upcoming Awareness Dates

- World Environment Day - 5th June
- Men's Health Week - 9th to 15th June
- National NAIDOC Week - 5th to 12th July
- National Diabetes Week - 13th to 19th July
- Dental Health Week - 4th to 10th August

Check out more events via the Explore Bendigo page here



www.bchs.com.au



Rights Information
and Advocacy Centre

RIAC's Tips for Carers/Parents of neurodiverse and/or Autistic children Tips for successful swimming and athletics carnivals

School carnivals, like swimming, athletics, and cross country, are important events in the school calendar. However carnivals are a big change from the regular school day routine which can leave neurodiverse and/or autistic children feeling overwhelmed.

Try these tips to support your child to have a positive and enjoyable experience –

1. Use a social story to help your child understand what will happen on the day, and what they will be expected to do.
2. Visit the location of the carnival in advance. Download a map of the venue so your child knows where everything is including the toilets
3. Negotiate reasonable adjustments with the school –
 - a quiet area to allow for downtime
 - wearing headphones to reduce the noise level
 - having fidget toys with them, especially for times when they will need to line up waiting for their turn
 - Wear comfortable clothing items – even if they are not part of the sports uniform
 - Adjustments to expectations considering the motor skills of your child

Come along to our **Carer Support groups** to learn more tips and enjoy a cuppa and a chat with other parents who have faced similar struggles.

Bendigo Walking Group	Long Gully Parent/Carer Group
When: 9.30am – 11am Every Thursday during school term	When: 9.30am – 11.00am Third Tuesday each month
Where: Meet at Peppergreen Farm carpark 40 Thunder Street North Bendigo	Where: Long Gully Neighbourhood Centre 52 Derwent Drive, Long Gully

For more information – EMAIL: carers@riac.org.au
PHONE: Carolyn – 0488 605 363

PIZZA DAY!

FRIDAY 26th JUNE

AT THE SCHOOL CANTEEN

Order Now!

Don't Miss Out!

\$6.00 PIZZA & DRINK COMBO

YOUR CHOICE OF SLICE:

1



MEAT LOVERS

2



HAWAIIAN

3

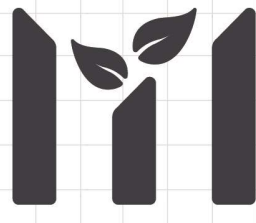


VEGETARIAN

GLUTEN FREE HAWAIIAN AVAILABLE (ADDITIONAL COST)



Orders to be placed on Compass by 9:00am, WEDNESDAY, 24TH June
Additional slices \$2.00 each






fresh fruit friday



Running for over a decade,
the program now delivers
1,300kg of free fruit to
Bendigo school children
every week.

 mckern steel™
foundation

   @mckernsteelfoundation

Made possible thanks to McKern Foundation and our supporting partners:



Want to support the program? Contact us to sponsor and provide more fruit to your school.

THANK YOU TO MCKERN STEEL FOUNDATION AND SPONSORS

WE ARE SO GRATEFUL TO BE A PART OF THIS WONDERFUL PROGRAM 😊